

## Provider Bulletin

**Date: February 8, 2010 Bulletin # PB-2010-02** 

## Wyoming Department of Health Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services Division

## **Calling for Comments**

The Departments of Health, Family Services, Corrections, Education and Workforce Development have been working together for the past several years to address problems faced by at-risk children in Wyoming. To support this process, a Prevention Subcommittee was formed and tasked with creating a cross-departmental prevention plan that would direct prevention efforts toward issues that affect at-risk children across service systems including substance use, criminal behavior, out of home placements, low graduation rates, low academic success, high truancy, low job success, and high suicide rates. As a part of creating a cross-departmental prevention approach in communities to achieve results in these areas, integration of community prevention funding and creating opportunities for multi-agency participation were deemed crucial to improved outcomes for Wyoming children.

To effectuate the ongoing mission of the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Division (the Division) to integrate prevention across programs and agencies, the Division proposes to combine into a single grant application all community-based prevention funding other than tobacco prevention and cessation beginning with the 2011 state fiscal year. This change would include those programs previously funded under the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG), Prevention Block Grant, Community Initiatives Project and the State Suicide Prevention Program. It is anticipated that key elements of this integrated approach to prevention would be:

<u>Single Fiscal Agent</u>: The Division would contract with one fiscal agent per county to administer an approved plan for integrated community-based prevention. Each plan would be approved for an initial period of two years.

<u>Local Prevention Coalition</u>: Each approved prevention plan would identify a central prevention coalition comprised of local agencies and stakeholders that would provide advice and consultation on the design, implementation and evaluation of prevention activities within the county. This coalition would include within its operational framework those coalitions previously associated with the SPF SIG, Prevention Block Grant, Community Initiatives Project, and the State Suicide Prevention Program.

<u>Project Manager and Other Staff</u>: The approved prevention plan would include funding for a Project Manager to oversee the day-to-day operations of the plan. The program may hire supporting staff within reason and as necessary to implement the prevention plan. All persons hired for the Project Manager position would be approved in advance by the Division. Specific minimum hiring standards and job descriptions would be distributed with the request for grant applications.

<u>Funding Awards</u>: Funding of each prevention plan would be based on the merits of the application, organizational capacity and experience, demonstrated community need, county population and such other criteria as the Division may deem appropriate. Overall funding would be based on funds available to the Division for the provision of local prevention services.

<u>Program Requirements and Limitations</u>: The following would be requirements of the proposed integrated prevention plan:

- P All programs would be evidence-based.
- P No more than 10% of a community provider's direct services budget could be used for information dissemination/awareness. This restriction would not include media used to support evidence-based programs and environmental strategies.
- Each program would include a youth group component.
- P Each program would include a plan for the collaboration with and support of local law enforcement, treatment services providers, tobacco prevention and cessation efforts, and other community human services agencies including DFS, Education, Workforce Services and Corrections. At least one representative from each of these sectors would be a participating member of the local prevention coalition.
- P Each program would choose at least one environmental strategy to work on during the first year of the prevention plan.

The purpose of this Provider Bulletin is to solicit feedback from providers, programs, community members and others who might be affected by such changes. Anyone with comments should respond in writing no later than February 22, 2010, to MHSASD, Prevention Unit, 6101 Yellowstone Road, Suite 220, Cheyenne, WY 82002 or via e-mail at prevention.framework@health.wyo.gov.



## Thank you for your courtesies.

Rodger McDaniel, JD, M-DIV, Deputy Director Wyoming Department of Health Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Division 6101 Yellowstone Road, Suite 220 Cheyenne, WY 82002 (307) 777-6494